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THIRD SECTOR NEWS

[THE DISCLOSURE \(SCOTLAND\) ACT 2020 – WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW AND DO NOW?](#)

The Disclosure Act will improve the disclosure system in Scotland by removing unnecessary barriers for people with convictions as they seek employment or other opportunities and enhance the Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme. The 1st April 2025 is a major milestone for implementation of the Disclosure Act. On this date:

- There will be different levels and types of Disclosures to choose from.
- Regulated Work will become Regulated Roles and The Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme will become mandatory for those carrying out a regulated role with children and/or protected adults.
- Applicants will have more control over their information. The disclosure process will include a requirement for applicants to share a copy of their disclosure with you, the organisation who requested the check, or to notify Disclosure Scotland that they will seek a review
- An individualised approach to the disclosure of childhood offending and rights of review for convictions disclosed, to enhance fairness and proportionality. Applicants will be able to indicate their intent to review a Level 2 disclosure digitally.

[SCVO WANTS YOUR VIEWS ON CHARITY ENERGY](#)

[SCVO](#) is working with its partner, [Utility Aid](#) to better understand the energy needs of Scotland's Voluntary Sector. To help us scope a potential bulk purchase scheme for renewable energy we are seeking more detail on your energy needs and priorities.

NEWS FROM THE CHARITY REGULATOR

DID YOU KNOW THAT CHARITY LAW HAS CHANGED IN SCOTLAND?

Join OSCR and fellow TSI members for an online information session where we will discuss the changes introduced by the Charities (Regulation and Administration) (Scotland) Act 2023 (the “2023 Act”) and what this means for charities in Scotland. In this session, we will cover:

- The legislation
- The commencement schedule
- Details of the changes
- How charities can prepare

There will be an opportunity to submit questions both in advance and during the session.



Choose from one of three dates:

[TUESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER AT 2PM - 3.30PM](#)

[WEDNESDAY 4TH DECEMBER AT 10AM - 11.30AM](#)

[THURSDAY 5TH DECEMBER AT 6.30PM - 8PM](#)

[WEBINAR: FOUR WAYS TO IMPROVE YOUR CHARITY'S ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS - SCVO & OSCR](#)

SCVO is running a free webinar with OSCR next week on charity accounts – Wednesday 30 October, 13:00- 14:00. This webinar is aimed at trustees, senior staff and those who support charities.

RESOURCES

[JPMORGANCHASE 2024 FORCE FOR GOOD PROGRAM](#)

The 2024 Force for Good Program is a pro-bono social innovation initiative that pairs their skilled employees with charities like yours. Whether you need tech, data, or design solutions, this program is designed to help you drive meaningful change and deliver your services even better. Applications for the 2025 Force for Good Program close on 22nd November 2024. [Apply Now.](#) To apply, create an online profile, and you'll receive an email to submit your application. Please send any questions to force.for.good@jpmchase.com

SCOTLAND'S INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE (SIDA): [SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS ACTION IN GRASSROOTS COMMUNITIES IN SCOTLAND](#)

Individuals and organisations are invited to connect and collaborate by joining the [SDG Network](#), as well as SIDA's [Global Citizenship Community](#). Both are free to join and provide networks and opportunities to connect on these themes.

SIDA REPORT: ['10 STEP GUIDE TO SAFE AND EFFECTIVE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT DONATIONS.'](#)

FORTHCOMING TRAINING AND EVENTS

SCOTLAND'S ENTERPRISING SCHOOLS: CPD TRAINING FOR PROFESSIONALS WORKING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

Scotland's Enterprising Schools is offering a dynamic session titled "Positive Destinations", designed to support educators, youth workers, and professionals in the third sector who are committed to helping young people achieve successful outcomes beyond traditional academic routes. Positive Destinations focuses on enhancing enterprise education skills, equipping participants with a wider mindset of enterprise, and strategies needed to inspire young people towards positive futures in employment, further education, or entrepreneurship. The training is completely free. For more information contact Louise.McQuaid@yes.org.uk

[FIND OUT ABOUT VICTIM SUPPORT SCOTLAND'S \(VSS\) EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND](#)

This November, VSS is launching a free webinar to help our partner organisations find out more about our Emergency Assistance Fund, addressing potential gaps in partner knowledge and answering FAQs. We will cover:

- ★ What is the Emergency Assistance Fund?
- ★ Who is it for and confirming eligibility criteria?
- ★ What does it cover?
- ★ What do you need to tell us if referring someone?

There will also be a Q&A session during which you can ask questions about the Emergency Assistance Fund. Choose from these three dates:

- Tuesday November 5, 3:00 PM
- Friday November 15, 11:00 AM
- Tuesday November 26, 10:00 AM

Business Gateway

[UNLOCKING THE POWER OF CROWDFUNDING, WEDNESDAY, 30TH OCTOBER, 10AM - 12PM](#)

This webinar will equip businesses with the knowledge and strategies to effectively leverage crowdfunding.

HOW TO WRITE FUNDING APPLICATIONS, MONDAY 4TH NOVEMBER, 10AM - 12PM

This webinar will walk you through a series of key hints and tips on how to write successful funding applications.



Coping with Christmas

Training for parents, carers and practitioners who support autistic people.

**Thursday 7th November
6.30 - 8.30pm online via ZOOM**

Delivered by Three Sisters Consultancy, funded by Ability Shetland

Ability Shetland

A TRAINING OPPORTUNITY FOR PARENTS, CARERS AND PROFESSIONALS SUPPORTING PEOPLE WHO ARE NEURODIVERSE.

Please email abilityshetland@shetland.org if you want to book a space and feel free to share with anyone you think may benefit.

FREE SCVO SUPPORT AND TRAINING

FINANCIAL BASICS FOR TRUSTEES, THURSDAY 7 NOVEMBER

In the first of two webinars with our new partners in SCVO's Financial Management Service, [Wylie Bisset Group \(WBG\)](#) will look at the financial basics all trustees need to know to ensure effective financial governance in their organisation.

LEAD SCOTLAND: TRUSTEE'S WEEK 2024, CYBER RESILIENCE FOR TRUSTEES, 12:30 – 13:30, MONDAY 4TH NOVEMBER

In this hour long session, we will cover why trustees need to think about cyber resilience; the current threat landscape; key measures to manage your personal cyber security; strategies for managing data security; and key advice on safe methods of data sharing. We will also provide links and resources for further learning opportunities, as well as answering any questions you may have.

Disabled people are underrepresented on Boards across Scotland. We are particularly keen to have sign ups from disabled people who are Trustees or disabled people who are thinking about becoming a Trustee however the session is open to all Trustees and potential Trustees.

THIRD SECTOR LAB: [DIGITAL TRUSTEES MATCHMAKING EVENT](#), 10AM - 11.15AM ON WEDNESDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2024, ONLINE

Through matchmaking events and sharing resources and experiences, we're making it easier than ever to connect charities and professionals from tech, data, design, IT and other digital backgrounds. We hold regular online matchmaking events which are a fantastic opportunity for third sector organisations to meet a variety digital professionals.

SCOTLAND'S INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE FREE WORKSHOP: [NHS BEST PRACTICES FOR SAFE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT DONATIONS, 30TH OF OCTOBER AT 10:00AM](#)

Join this webinar with NHS Scotland's Global Citizenship programme, where we'll explore best practice for medical equipment donations. The session will focus on how to safely and effectively donate medical equipment. It will also offer a chance for individuals and organisations to share their experiences, talk about the ethical and environmental aspects of donations, and work together to improve the donation process.

SAVE THE DATE: VOLUNTEER SCOTLAND 40TH AGM EVENT, TUESDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2024, 10 AM – 11.30 AM, ZOOM

The AGM marks an important milestone of 40 years of working with our members, stakeholders, partners and colleagues to help to make a difference through volunteering. In addition to our formal AGM business, we're delighted to host our annual AGM Event which this year will explore 'The Value of Volunteering'. We'll have sessions from David Bomark who will present findings from his doctoral research on volunteering and associational life, and Will Watt from State of Life who will consider the social value of volunteering.

[16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM 2024 AGAINST GENDER BASED VIOLENCE](#)

The [16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence](#) is an annual international campaign that starts on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and runs until 10 December, Human Rights Day.

[SPOTLIGHT: SAFE & TOGETHER, 26 NOVEMBER 2024, 10.00AM - 12.00PM | ONLINE](#)

Explore learning from implementation of the Safe & Together model in Scotland and the impact of domestic-abuse informed systems, services, and workforces.

[SPOTLIGHT: ENGAGING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE AROUND ONLINE MISOGYNY, 28 NOVEMBER 2024, 2.00PM - 4.00PM | ONLINE](#)

Explore approaches to understanding and addressing the risks of online misogyny and abuse for young people in Scotland.

[WOMEN WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES INVOLVED IN SELLING OR EXCHANGING SEX, 28 NOVEMBER 2024, 11.00AM - 12.45PM | ONLINE](#)

A free event where we will shed light on women with learning disabilities and their involvement in selling or exchanging sex in Scotland. The event will bring together experts who will share case studies and good practice examples.

[SPOTLIGHT: WOMEN'S POLITICAL REPRESENTATION, 3 DECEMBER 2024, 10.00AM - 12.00PM | ONLINE](#)

Explore the barriers to political participation and representation for women and girls, and how this is related to tackling violence and abuse.

[SPOTLIGHT: CHILDREN'S VOICES IN COURT PROCESSES, 4 DECEMBER 2024, 12.00PM - 2.00PM | ONLINE](#)

Explore the link between embedding children's rights and tackling VAWG in Scotland, particularly in the context of court process and justice responses.

[SPOTLIGHT: HONOUR-BASED ABUSE, 5 DECEMBER 2024, 2.00PM - 4.00PM | ONLINE](#)

Explore the current work to raise awareness and improve responses to so-called 'Honour'-based abuse for women and girls in Scotland.

[FACILITATING DISCLOSURES OF SELLING OR EXCHANGING SEX, 10 DECEMBER 2024, 9.30AM - 1.00PM | ONLINE](#)

The recent CSE Aware report "Barriers to Disclosures of Selling or Exchanging Sex" revealed a number challenges that practitioners face in relation to disclosures of selling or exchanging sex. To increase workers' skills and confidence to manage disclosures of selling or exchanging sex, CSE Aware is offering an online training session for frontline practitioners.

CHARITY DIGITAL EVENTS

[CHARITY DIGITAL ACADEMY: PRACTICAL USES OF AI FOR YOUR CHARITY, 5TH NOVEMBER 2024, 10:00AM-13:00PM GMT](#)

This course aims, in just three hours, to boost your everyday use of AI. The course takes a hands-on, practical approach, showing charities how to use AI to improve meetings, boost email marketing, smash data analytics, enhance workflow efficiency, and so much more.

[DIGITAL FUNDRAISING SUMMIT 2024, 7TH NOVEMBER 2024, 9:30AM-17:00PM GMT](#)

For the sixth year, the Digital Fundraising Summit 2024 returns with insights from the charity and tech sectors. This event offers charities the chance to strengthen fundraising fundamentals and explore future innovations.

[MAKE YOUR MARK CONFERENCE 2025: VOLUNTEER-CENTRED SUPPORT, 27 FEBRUARY 2025, 9.00AM - 4.30PM, FREE, ONLINE & IN-PERSON AT THE ENGINE SHED, STIRLING](#)

There will be a combination of talks, workshops and panels that cover inclusive group volunteering, how to fund inclusive volunteer programmes, lived experiences of a diverse range of volunteers.

JUST ENTERPRISE UPCOMING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

[INTRODUCING AI IN YOUR SOCIAL ENTERPRISE, ONLINE WORKSHOP, 31ST OCTOBER 2024](#)

Join us for this workshop on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and explore the transformative power of using AI across various elements of social enterprises, revealing new opportunities for growth, efficiency and impact!

[CHARITABLE TRADING, ONLINE WORKSHOP, 5TH NOVEMBER 2024](#)

More and more charities are trading, or considering trading, as a way to generate income, but it's essential to keep within the law. This session outlines what you can and can't do to trade legally.

FREE E-LEARNING FROM JUST ENTERPRISE

Prefer to learn at a time, place and pace of your own choosing? [Just Enterprise eLearning programmes](#) are split into short, focused modules that help you fit essential training into your busy schedule. Choose the courses that are relevant to you and your organisation and learn at your own pace via desktop, laptop, tablet or smartphone. [REGISTER NOW](#)

[UNCRC AND CHILDREN'S RIGHT TO HOME](#), 30TH OCTOBER, 9.30AM-12.30PM, ONLINE

This training will connect your day-to-day work with children and young people facing homelessness to UNCRC articles, strengthening your rights-based practice.

[THE TEENAGE BRAIN: IMPLICATIONS FOR BEHAVIOUR AND LEARNING](#), 11TH NOVEMBER, 10AM-12PM, ONLINE

This webinar will focus on the adolescent brain and how it develops. It will explore why teenagers behave as they do, how they learn, and how they make decisions about their lives.

MAKE YOUR MARK SUPPORTS OVER 100 VOLUNTEER-INVOLVING HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS ACROSS SCOTLAND

[4 NOVEMBER - VOLUNTEERING: A HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUALITIES FIRST APPROACH](#)

Learn how to apply a human rights and equalities first approach to your volunteering programme.

[20 NOVEMBER - HERITAGE DEBATE 2024: BALANCING THE BOOKS](#)

Explore the opportunities and pitfalls of public, private and philanthropic funding models.

[21 NOVEMBER - SCOTLAND'S COMMUNITY HERITAGE CONVERSATIONS 2024](#)

Build connections to enhance capacity, foster inclusivity and unlock innovative approaches to audience engagement, volunteering and workforce development

SVN WORKSHOP | [LEGAL PANEL FOR SCOTLAND'S CHARITY SECTOR WITH BRODIES LLP SOLICITORS, NOV 07, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM GMT, ONLINE EVENT](#)

Are you a charity or third sector organisation operating in Scotland seeking high-level legal advice to move forward and build resilience? Inspiring Scotland's Specialist Volunteer Network are hosting a panel of experts from Brodies LLP Solicitors to share their insights across themes including Charity Law and Governance, Commercial Contracts, Mergers and Acquisitions, Intellectual Property, Tech and Data, Employment Law and Tax and Real Estate.

CLIMATE NEWS

[HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS CLIMATE HUB: SUSTAINABLE SPACES PROGRAMME FOR 2024-25](#)

The [Highlands & Islands Climate Hub](#) will be launching our Sustainable Spaces programme for 2024-25. Designed to lead community organisations through all the stages needed to plan, design, fund & implement a sustainable strategy.

At our Launch Event you'll get an insight to the programme: what it entails, the Hub's commitment to supporting participants, success stories from our previous Sustainable Spaces cohort and the benefits of taking part.

The launch event will be online on Thursday 31st October at 2:00 PM. Please follow the link below to book your free spot: [Sustainable Spaces Tickets, Thu, Oct 31, 2024 at 2:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

ONLINE FILM PREMIERE FOR THE MOVIE “DON’T LOOK UP AGAIN” ON SATURDAY 26TH OCTOBER, 7PM – 9.30PM GMT

More information and details of how to register are below:

This Saturday, 26 October at 2pm EST, ZNetwork is proud to host the world premiere of the satirical documentary film [Don't Look Up - Again](#).

Don't Look Up – Again is about how humanity avoided the greatest catastrophe in our history. Inspired by Adam McKay's Don't Look Up, it asks the question “what if we just looked up, saw the comet coming, and did something about it?”

Humanity is now in a climate crisis. To prevent the next mass extinction, we must act, and with urgency. Don't Look Up – Again imagines a world where we did just that. In interviews with over 20 media personalities and grassroots activists, Don't Look Up – Again tells the story of how they brought about “the first major act of climate solidarity the world ever saw.” “We had to do something that wouldn't be ignored,” says one TV anchor. They weighed up what they were going to lose – career, status, wealth – and decided it was a price worth paying. They made climate change the main story every night. At the same time activists of all kinds and all ages stepped-up climate action. This went on until governments listened. The film's young interviewer tells us bluntly “for my whole life, CEOs, politicians, economists, and certain media have said or implied that saving the planet was off the table because we couldn't afford it. But that was a lie!”

In addition to being a thought-provoking (and fun) satire in its own right, Don't Look Up - Again serves as a launchpad for Youth Spring: The Movie, a very real activist experiment that engages young people to embrace the power they have to affect climate policy and rewrite the future left to them by the capitalist "adults in the room."

So, don't miss this exciting ZNetwork premiere of Don't Look Up – Again and the opportunity for a Q&A with the film's director, Lonnie Ray Atkinson.

[Register here](#) to book your place.

STOP CLIMATE CHAOS SCOTLAND AND [SCOTTISH COMMUNITIES CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK](#) LUNCHTIME WORKSHOPS

[SCCS & SCCAN: WHAT'S NEXT FOR CLIMATE ACTION IN SCOTLAND? TUESDAY 5TH NOVEMBER 12 - 1 PM, ONLINE](#)

Join us for this session focused on the action needed to reduce emissions across key sectors and upcoming campaigns you can get involved with. Speakers include WWF, Community Transport Association, Christian Aid, RSPB and more.

[SCCS & SCCAN: CLIMATE ACTION IN SCOTLAND: WHAT YOU CAN DO, WEDNESDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 12 - 1 PM, ONLINE](#)

Hear from inspirational and motivational speakers and campaigners working for strong climate action in Scotland and internationally - find ways to get involved and take local and national actions for climate justice.

[SCCS & SCCAN: HOW TO SPEAK TO YOUR MSP ABOUT CLIMATE, WEDNESDAY 27TH NOVEMBER 12 - 1 PM, ONLINE](#)

Join us for this online session to learn how to speak to your MSP about climate change and climate action, and good practice in nurturing effective communication and relationships with your local representatives.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES/ VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Shetland Befriending Scheme presents

Recipe for a good Befriender

2 hrs a week/fortnight
1 positive outlook
1 ability to be dependable
a listening ear
a pinch of fun & humour

Method
Currently recruiting volunteers to work with young people aged 7-15 and 16+ adults

For more information contact us on
Telephone: 01595 743907
Email: befriending@shetland.org

Shetland Islands Council Shetland Charitable Trust COMMUNITY FUND

SHETLAND BEFRIENDING SCHEME IS CURRENTLY RECRUITING NEW VOLUNTEERS

Volunteering with us is fun, challenging and can help you gain new skills and experiences. Anyone over the age of 17 can be a befriender. People of all ages and walks of life can volunteer – students, full-time parents, retired folk, people working full or part-time, or unemployed.

We will provide the training and all we ask is that you commit a few hours a fortnight, be caring, tolerant and enthusiastic. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer with us, we would be delighted to hear from you!

You can message us on Facebook, email befriending@shetland.org or call us on 01595 743907. You can read more about our work on our website: Shetland Befriending Scheme

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT NEWS

REPORTS

DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT GAP

The [Economy and Fair Work Committee](#) has issued a [report](#) on the Disability employment gap. This calls on the Scottish Government to deliver a detailed action plan that focuses on the needs of people with learning disabilities and neurodiverse people. Summary versions of the report are available in [easy read](#) and in [British Sign Language](#).

[FUNDING SETTLEMENT FOR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES](#)

The [Education, Children and Young People Committee](#) has written to the Minister for Higher and Further Education to share the findings from its pre-budget inquiry on the current funding settlement for colleges and universities. The committee wants to see action taken to support the sector through a range of financial challenges.

PEOPLE'S PANEL ON DRUG DEATHS AND DRUG-RELATED HARMS

The Panel will consider the question 'What does Scotland need to do differently to reduce drug-related harms?'. The People's Panel, made up of 25 people from across Scotland who are broadly representative of the Scottish population, will work together to scrutinise the issue.

HEALTH, SOCIAL CARE AND SPORT COMMITTEE (HSCS) REPORT INTO RURAL HEALTHCARE (PDF)

Following on from their inquiry into remote and rural healthcare in Scotland, the HSCS have published their report into Rural Healthcare.

LEGISLATION

CALLS FOR VIEWS: THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT IS OPEN TO HEARING YOUR VIEWS ON A RANGE OF TOPICS:

CHARGING FOR SINGLE-USE DISPOSABLE BEVERAGE CUPS: CONSULTATION

Closing date of Thursday 14 November 2024

A public consultation on the proposed implementation of charging for single-use disposable beverage cups in Scotland. The purpose of the planned charge is to reduce our consumption of single-use disposable beverage cups through establishing a robust system which leads to widespread acceptance and increased use of reusable cups; while creating an opportunity for innovative approaches to reusable cup schemes to develop.

Please respond to this consultation using the Scottish Government's consultation platform, Citizen Space. You can view and respond to this consultation online at <https://consult.gov.scot/environment-forestry/charging-for-single-use-disposable-beverage-cups>.